



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 1  
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100  
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

Drafted Date: 26 July 2017

Finalized Date: 9 Aug 2017

**Subj:** Inspection Report  
Nor-Dic Farm

**From:** Andrew Spejewski

**Thru:** Denny Dart

**To:** File

**I. Facility Information**

- A. *Facility Name:* Nor-Dic Farm
- B. *Facility Location:* 5305 Jersey St  
Panton, VT 05491
- C. *Facility Contacts:* Andy Nolan, Operator  
802-373-7427
- D. *NPDES ID Number:* N/A

**II. Background Information**

- A. *Date and time of inspection:*  
*Facility entrance:* July 18, 2017, 9:00 AM  
*Facility exit:* July 18, 2017, 11:00 AM
- B. *Weather Conditions:* Clear, Dry
- C. *US EPA Representative(s):* Andrew Spejewski
- D. *State/Local Representative(s):* Chip Gianfagna, VT DEC
- E. *Federally Enforceable Requirements Covered During the Inspection:* NPDES  
CAFO permits
- F. *Previous Enforcement Actions* None known:

### **III. Type and Purpose of Inspection**

Assess whether a CAFO permit is required

### **IV. Facility Description**

The farm lies east of Jersey St. It includes a main barn, a milking barn to the south, and several sheds in between. An above-ground manure pit (the 'vertical pit') is to the west of the milking barn. Several feed bunkers are west of the barns, with a drive between. A large manure pit is about 100 yards east and slightly north of the main barn, down a slope.

### **V. Inspection**

Several days prior, Mr. Spejewski contacted Richard Thurber to arrange the inspection. Mr. Thurber explained that he owns the property but has retired from farming and rents it to Mr. Nolan. Mr. Spejewski then contacted Mr. Nolan to arrange the inspection.

The day of the inspection, Mr. Spejewski and Mr. Gianfagna arrived at the farm at 9:00. Mr. Nolan and Mr. Thurber met them at the farm. Mr. Spejewski explained the purpose of the inspection, presented his credentials, and gave a copy of the small business information sheet.

Mr. Nolan gave an overview of the property. It includes 240 mature cows and 180 calves and heifers. Mr. Nolan acknowledged that the adjacent Hatch farm (Tisbert farm satellite) stores feed in the bunkers at Nor-Dic.

The group then toured the facility.

The walkway between the main barn and milk barn, as well as the rest of the yard (not occupied by cattle) drains to the east between the two feed bunkers. The area between the bunkers was unpaved dirt. It drained to the east, then down a short highly vegetated slope. Mr. Thurber stated that a ditch ran all around the feed bunkers, draining to the north then down the hill to the east to a vegetated treatment system, which led to a pond.

The group walked to the north and followed a dirt road east past the manure pit. The treatment area was heavily vegetated. There was no sign of channelized flow from the treatment area to the pond. Mr. Spejewski asked if the treatment area was ever cleared; Mr. Nolan said occasionally but it was usually too wet to take equipment into.

The main manure pit had earth wall on the eastern, downhill side. They were well vegetated and appeared in good shape, with no signs of overflows. The pit had perhaps two feet of freeboard remaining.

A ditch ran down the dirt road from the area of the main barn, past the manure pit, and down the hill, to a ditch along a field. Mr. Thurber stated the ditch ran along another

field and left the property (this appeared to be a half mile of flow); the ditch was heavily vegetated and only a trickle if that was flowing.

On the north side of the main barn was a concrete-floored open area, apparently where bedding and manure were scraped to from the barn. It had a concrete berm on the east (downhill) side, but there was a couple of feet of gap between the berm and the barn, with signs of flow through the gap.

The above-ground pit is located just east of the milk barn. Mr. Nolan stated that there is a manure collection system in the barn that usually pumps the manure through a pipe passing through the barn wall and up into the vertical pit. However, last week the pipe ruptured and it is being repaired.

The vertical pit was built of concrete wall about 8 feet high above the surrounding terrain, and had several feet of freeboard remaining. Mr. Gianfagna asked to see the location of the crack in the pit that was noted in the VT Dept. of Agriculture inspection report from a year ago. Mr. Thurber showed the location on the northwest corner where a patch of cement had been installed. There was no sign of leaking or failing in this location.

A section of concrete pad was located just east of the vertical pit. Mr. Thurber stated this was an area where excess concrete had been disposed of.

The group concluded the tour. Mr. Spejewski and Mr. Gianfagna noted the gap in the wall to the north of the main barn; Mr. Nolan stated he would add a berm to contain runoff. Mr. Spejewski and Mr. Gianfagna then thanked Mr. Thurber and Mr. Nolan for their time and left the site.

Picture List:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| IMG_1430.JPG | Northern bunkers, from South            |
| IMG_1431.JPG | Southern bunkers, from North            |
| IMG_1432.JPG | area west of bunkers, discharge         |
| IMG_1433.JPG | discharge to road, just north of pit    |
| IMG_1434.JPG | field ditch, facing W, NE of pit        |
| IMG_1435.JPG | facing S over pond to W                 |
| IMG_1436.JPG | facing S over pit                       |
| IMG_1437.JPG | E edge of pit                           |
| IMG_1438.JPG | facing S to N side of main barn         |
| IMG_1439.JPG | facing N, along E side of southern barn |
| IMG_1440.JPG | facing W, S of vertical pit             |
| IMG_1441.JPG | facing N over vertical pit              |
| IMG_1442.JPG | cattle walkway between barns            |

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